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1962/10/17

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INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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Action
E~~CONFIDENTIAL~~Control: 13597
Rec'd: October 17, 1962
8:25 PM

Info

FROM: Athens

SS

TO: Secretary of State

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NO: 480, October 17, 7 PM

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ACTION DEPARTMENT 480, PARIS 47

ARA

PARIS FOR USRO

NEA

Department Circular Telegram 626

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IOP

NSC

Embassy Officer took up question Soviet flights to Cuba
promptly upon receipt REFTEL and followed up on matter
today. FONOFF now advises that instructions sent Paris
to effect GOG will not approve Soviet requests to overfly
or make stops in Greece on flights destined for Cuba. A3

INR

CIA

NSA

RMR

In connection question of overflights Embassy Officer
raised matter of reported flights by five Soviet AN's
over Greece to Cairo. (See Air Attaché message CX-255
to USAF Washington on subject AN-12 flights.) Clearance
of this flight originally not granted by GOG until Soviets
provided statement as to nature of flight, i.e., "Soviet
cargo transport planes proceeding Cairo empty." In this
connection FONOFF representative noted GOG of course at
mercy of Soviets in terms of whether they declare fully
what the real destination is, but they feel bound to
accept Soviet assertion as correct. 15

TS authority to: OADR

CLASSIFY as: DRAFT
() RELEASE
() EXCISE
() DECLASSIFY IN PART
() Non-Responsive
() FOIA or PA Exemptions
() DOWNGRADE TSEmbassy Officer then inquired concerning press reports to
effect Foreign Minister had had discussions recently with
Greek ship owners concerning Cuba shipments. At that time
they had reportedly pointed to problems involved in time
charters already signed with the Bloc and complications
involved in breaking such contracts. Foreign Ministry officer
stated he knew of no such meeting with the Foreign Minister.~~CONFIDENTIAL~~REPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY IS
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-2- 480, October 17, 7 PM, From: Athens

but this subject had been discussed with other Foreign Ministry officials, and Ambassador Matsas had in fact been requested to take up with Department following two problems: (1) Problem relating to already existing time charters, and (2) relating possibility of USG waiving 50/50 clause on US Government shipments which would recompense Greek ship owners for their action in denying selves Cuban traffic.

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